



St. Patrick School News



**JANUARY 2021
ZONE 4**

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:



New Year's Prayer

By Charlotte Anselmo

Thank you Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.

Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And the happiness it brings.

Please give the leaders of our
world
A courage born of peace
That they might lead us gently
And all the fighting cease.

Please give to all upon this
earth
A heart that's filled with love
A gentle happy way to live
With Your blessings from
above.

Amen

Happy New Year!

As we return to school after the holidays, Health and Safety is our Number 1 priority. Teachers will be reviewing the routines and procedures we put in place due to Covid in September with all students (how to properly wear and handle a mask, hand-washing, sanitizing, the necessity for social distancing, etc.). Please remind your child about wearing a mask and maintaining social distancing as much as possible. Please continue to do the Covid self-assessment every morning and keep children home if they are feeling ill.

Once children are comfortable returning to school again, our focus turns to academics. The period between Christmas and March Break is prime learning time. For children in grades SK-3 the focus is reading and reading comprehension as well as basic Math skills. Please continue to read with your child every day using Reading A to Z program or books you have at home and have children do a Math program on the computer. For children in grades 4—8, completing homework, working on the multiplication table (up to 12x12), reading a novel or using an on-line program like Epic books, and/or doing a Math program on the computer are all good ideas and can only help your child in the long run. Please check D2L/Brightspace since teachers are posting on it regularly.

The beginning of the new year is a good time to remind children of your expectations for their academic performance and good behavior at school—to do their best work possible, follow school rules and to listen to their teachers. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Wishing you all a prosperous and healthy year.

Sincerely, Dr. Petruka

IF YOUR CHILD IS SICK

Parents are asked to take their child's temperature every morning and to review the Covid self-assessment questions at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. If your child has a fever or you answered "yes" to any of the questions, you must keep your child at home. Please make arrangements *now* so that your child has a place to go or someone to watch them if they are sick and cannot attend school. Also, please ensure the school has the phone number of an adult that can get to the school immediately to pick up your child if he/she becomes ill at school. Please give this number to Mrs. Bennett by phoning 519-759-0380, emailing her at gbennett@bhncdsb.ca.

Please know that the school staff must treat all illness presented at school as possible Covid-19. Any child with symptoms of illness will be removed from the classroom and put in the isolation room until he/she can be picked up from school. The child will wear a medical grade mask (if tolerable) and be watched by an adult wearing full personal protective equipment (gown, gloves, medical grade mask and face shield). The longer a sick child is in the school, the greater the risk of infection to students and staff, so a quick pick-up by an adult is needed. If a child is sick in a classroom, all students will be removed from that area and taken to an uninfected area while heightened cleaning protocols take place in that classroom and any area of the school the infected child has been.

While at home, when your child is well enough, you are able to access the student work available on the computer via D2L/Brightspace.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school with questions or to give us emergency contact information (519) 759-0380.

Contact Us:

320 Fairview Drive,
Brantford, Ontario N3R 2X6

Tel. (519) 759-0380

Twitter @stpatseagles

www.stpatrickbrantford.ca

**ONLINE
KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION** JAN 4 - FEB 26
catholiceducation.ca




BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

If your child is 4 or 5 years of age on or before December 31, 2020 it's time to register for Junior or Senior Kindergarten!

We appreciate you enrolling your child early in the year.

This is important for planning and school organization for the 2021-2022 school year.

**GRADE 8 STUDENT & PARENT
VIRTUAL
OPEN HOUSE
WEEK** JAN 18-22
sjconline.ca/futurestudents



**St. John's
College**

All families welcome!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY BRANT

As a result of COVID, In lieu of a Thanksgiving food collection, the school community donated \$193.00 to help those less fortunate and for a Christmas collection, the school community donated \$197.00.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

In lieu of a staff party the St. Patrick School Staff collected a total of \$450.00 in gift cards to donate to the Christmas Basket Program of Brantford.

Thank you St. Patrick families and staff for your generosity.

*Kindness
is
Magic*

PARENTS/VISITORS

Due to Covid-19, we will not be able to welcome visits from parents and other community members into the school at this time. If you need to pick up your child for an appointment, please wait for your child outside the front door by the office.

If you need to drop something off for your child, there is a red drop off bin right inside the door. Please ring the buzzer and let Mrs. Bennett know the purpose of your visit.

When returning to the school, students need to ask themselves the self-assessment questions and if they answer “no” to all of the questions, they may re-enter. This policy is in place to ensure the safety of all of our students.

Please make sure to limit these interruptions when possible as important learning takes place throughout the whole school day.

REMINDER....INDOOR / OUTDOOR SHOES

Please be sure your child has an extra pair of shoes for wearing indoors. These do not need to be expensive because they will only be worn indoors! We ask that all students, Kindergarten to Grade 8 follow this policy, to help keep our school clean and their feet dry.

Playground Equipment is closed until spring

For safety reasons, (e.g., cold metal bars, heavy coats that restrict movement, loose scarfs, slippery mittens and frozen ground) the playground equipment has been closed until the spring thaw.

PARENT COUNCIL NEWS.... Month of February Calendar Draw!!



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Thank you to those families who have already returned their money and ticket stubs.

Calendars are still available ! Quantities are limited. Fantastic prizes to be won - DAILY!

Every ticket is re-entered back into the draw and is eligible for the remaining prizes! Winners will be notified by phone and posted weekly on our school website.

Profits will be used to enhance the playground areas and update the School Home Reading Program.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR PARENT COUNCIL AND OUR ST. PATRICK STUDENTS

WINTER OUTDOOR TEMPERATURES

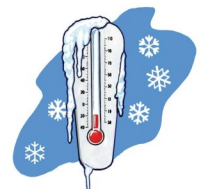
When outdoor winter temperatures fall below -20 C (including windchill), St. Patrick students will have recess indoors in accordance with Board policy and guidelines.

When temperatures are between -10 C and -20 C students can be outside for a maximum of 20 minutes. Please continue to send your child with complete winter wear and we will continue to monitor the temperature and the playground conditions for student safety.

For more information on the BHNCD SB policy around cold weather please visit the following website: www.bhncdsb.ca

Important — Please remember to send your child to school prepared for all outdoor play. Students should wear boots, hats, gloves or mittens, warm coats, and snow/slush pants.

It is a good idea to send more than one pair of mitts on snowy days since mitts get wet and do not have enough time to dry before second recess. Also, your child should have more than one clean mask available daily to switch out when their mask gets wet.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER...

- January 4** Happy New Year! School resumes
- January 4** - Online Kindergarten Registration is open!
- January 18 - P.A. Day—no school
- January 20 - Virtual Regional Parent Council Meeting (all welcome)
- February 5 - Report Cards go home
- February 12 - Valentine's Day—wear red, white, pink
- February 15 - Family Day—no school
- February 16 - Shrove Tuesday / Pancake lunch—tentative
- February 17 - Ash Wednesday
- February 24 - Pink Shirt Day
- March Break** - **March 15—19**
- April 2 - Good Friday—no school
- April 5 - Easter Monday — no school
- April 23 - P.A. Day—no school
- May 2-7 **Catholic Education Week**
- May 24 Victoria Day—no school
- June 11 - P.A. Day—no school for students
- June 25 - Final Report Card

WORTH REPEATING !



How often should I change my face mask?

A fresh mask every day is helpful. Sometimes more than one mask is needed each day. Cleaning your cloth face mask every night is a good rule of thumb. With the colder weather upon us and students wearing their masks outside, masks have the tendency to get wet and will become uncomfortable. It would be ideal to have 2-3 masks at school per day in the winter!

**DON'T
FORGET TO PACK
THE NECESSARY
UTENSILS FOR
YOUR CHILD'S
LUNCH AS WE
MAY NOT
ALWAYS BE ABLE
TO
PROVIDE THESE**

TUESDAY'S LUNCH BOX ORDERS

- ⇒ Sign up anytime
- ⇒ Healthy meals
- ⇒ Easy as 1-2-3

Register at
www.lunchboxorders.com